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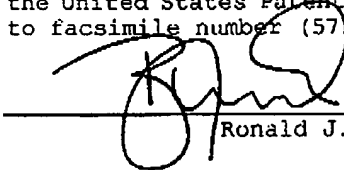
MAR 15 2006

**PATENT
NON-FINAL**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/684,495 Confirmation No. 3509
Applicant : Takeshi MORI et al.
Filed : October 15, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3763
Examiner : Aamer S. Ahmed
Dkt. No. : NPR-128
Cust. No. : 20374

I hereby certify that this paper is being
facsimile transmitted on March 15, 2006, to
the United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Ronald J. Kubovcik

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 15, 2005**

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 15, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 15, 2005. A petition for a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the application as directed below and consider the remarks that follow.

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